

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) for BAA 06-015
"Large Tactical Sensor Networks"
Questions 11 to 22

Question #11:

Do you allow collaboration with Universities from Canada or Australia on this effort while submitting a white paper or proposal?

Response:

Yes. Please see Amendment 0001 to BAA 06-015, which opens the solicitation to all responsible sources.

Question #12:

I was wondering if a Government Lab (U.S. National Laboratory or a Navy Lab) would be eligible to compete for the ONR BAA 06-015 award either independently, or by teaming with either a company or a university.

Response:

Government Labs (U.S. National Laboratory or a Navy Labs) are not eligible to bid on BAA 06-015. However, teaming arrangements are allowed.

Question #13:

{XXX} mentioned that there will be an industry day attendees list available but I don't see it on the website with the other documents.

Response:

For a copy of the Attendance List, please send your request to kgibson@mitre.org.

Question #14:

- a. Can we address more than one thrust area?
- b. Is there an estimate on the budget and timeline for this program?
- c. Has ONR set a baseline for sensor qualification with NIST or other agencies?
- d. Are we allowed to include NIST (National Institute of Standards, a Government agency) in the team?

Response:

- a. Yes.
- b. \$25M is available in FY07. ONR plans to issue an annual BAA for this program. The total funding for the program is anticipated to be \$84M during FY07-FY11.
- c. No baseline for sensor qualifications with NIST or other agencies has been set.
- d. Yes.

Question #15:

- a. Is there a place of performance selected for this initiative?
- b. Are there any incumbent contractors.

Response:

- a. No.
- b. No.

Question #16:

Q1: Please clarify statements in your brief regarding program award funding. Your graph states (pg 42) that average award ranges are \$600K to \$1.25M per award. Is this an annual award value or total for multi-year awards?

Q2: Many large organizations have many independent operating groups. How will the program office consider multiple offering on BAA topics, potentially overlapping, from independent operating groups of the same corporation?

Q3: (related to Q2) is there value to the program office if proposals show linkages to independently executable offerings from independent operating groups from the same corporation?

Response:

Q1. There is no set award limit. \$600K to \$1.25M is an estimate of the average total award. Proposals of higher and lower amounts will also be considered.

Q2. We will select the best proposals. Please refer to FAR Subpart 9.5 for details on Organizational and Consultant Conflict of Interests.

Q3. Possibly.

Question #17:

a. The BAA states that the government shall require unlimited rights from contractors. Are Government Purpose Rights negotiable instead?

b. Will you favor technology development efforts embodying an integration strategy comprising several program thrusts; or do you prefer efforts within a single area?

c. Do you entertain proposals that include sensors or data streams not related to current or upcoming programs of record, such as representative sensors or other sources of data that are not listed, including technologies to integrate human intelligence (HUMINT)?

d. Per the BAA, we understand that the Average Award Range of \$600,000-1,250,000 should be structured for a one to three year period. Just to clarify does that mean a maximum of \$1,250,000 for each of three years, or is that the combined total over three years (~\$400k max per year)?

e. Which units will be field testing?

f. Which organizations will be represented on the review board?

Response:

- a. We prefer to have unlimited rights. However, ONR's IP attorneys will consider all data right assertions prior to award.
- b. Both are desired.
- c. Yes.
- d. There is no set award limit. \$600K to \$1.25M is an estimate of the average total award. Proposals of higher and lower amounts will also be considered.
- e. Unknown at this time.
- f. ONR is still assembling this panel. (See Section V, Evaluation panel on page 31)

Question #18:

We seek clarification of the text contained in 6.4.3.2. It refers to the "information needs of all the nodes". Could you cite an example of the information needs of a node?

Response:

There are communications, networking needs and data needs at each node. Communications and networking may include knowledge of where the other nodes are, and what is the data transport format is for HUMINT, SIGINT, IMINT, MASINT and OSINT (Open Source) information and sensors. What metadata is needed at each node? Define what essential information should be passed (not ALL information needs to be passed) to other nodes, to fusion nodes, etc.

Question #19:

Is Large Tactical Sensor Networks a new initiative or is it a continuation/spin off of another program. If it is either, where can I find the list of awards, if it is a public domain?

Response:

The Large Tactical Sensor Network effort is a new initiative at ONR. ONR does not post a list of contract awards.

Question #20:

Is it anticipated that the total YEARLY award for a submission will capped by the award range (\$1.25M), or is the cap over the lifespan of a submission (up to 3 years based on 2 years worth of options)?

Response:

There is no set award limit. \$600K to \$1.25M is an estimate of the average total award. Proposals of higher and lower amounts will also be considered.

Question #21:

Considering the geographical constraint of personally reviewing the document, I request you to provide us the following details:

- a) List of Items, Schedule of Requirements, Scope of Work, Terms of Reference, Bill of Materials required.
- b) Soft Copy of the Tender Document through email.
- c) Names of countries that will be eligible to participate in this tender.
- d) Information about the Tendering Procedure and Guidelines
- e) Estimated Budget for this Purchase
- f) Any Extension of Bidding Deadline?
- g) Any Addendum or Pre Bid meeting Minutes?

Response:

The information you requested is located at www.fedbizopps.gov in Section IV. Additional information from Industry Day can be found at https://www.onr.navy.mil/forcenet_large_sensor_nets. There were no Pre-Bid meeting minutes.

Question #22:

- 1. For experimentation, testing and demonstrations it is envisioned that certain software COTS products would help accomplish the goals of the proposal. Can bidders include development & test-bed/demo licenses for such products in their proposals even though those licenses would be specific to the test-bed/demonstration deployment, and will have not “government purpose rights”?
- 2. If the bidder identifies a COTS product with the potential to accelerate 12 months the transition of a desired capability to operational forces, can the bidder build a solution around that product or would that be considered detrimental of the proposal?
- 3. If the answer to 2 is yes or maybe, can IP rights be split: i.e., license agreement required for baseline COTS product but government purpose rights for improvement modules and interfaces developed on the program?
- 4. To what extent can simulated data from sensors be used to develop the proposed system, in particular for those sensors that may not yet be available.

Response:

- 1. For questions concerning government rights, please see Section IV, Assertion of Data Rights (page 27). ONR’s IP attorneys will consider all data right assertions prior to award.
- 2. The use of COTS is encouraged.
- 3. ONR’s IP attorney will consider all data rights assertions prior to award.
- 4. Simulated sensor data will be necessary to achieve some of the objectives.